

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 PA-02 SS-15 USIA-15

PRS-01 /050 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY NEA:AGRIFFIN

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

S/S-S - RPERSIKO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS STATE 171101

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, IN, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO PRIME MINISTER'S
BICENTENNIAL MESSAGE

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
TO PRIME MINISTER GANDHI:

2. QUOTE: DEAR MADAM PRIME MINISTER: ON BEHALF OF THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE, MRS. FORD AND I JOIN IN EXPRESSING OUR
APPRECIATION FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION
OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATION'S INDEPENDENCE.

IN OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE NOT ONLY MARK THE DEEDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF
THE PAST, BUT ALSO REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO INDIVIDUAL
FREEDOM, DIGNITY AND EQUALITY.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TOWARD THE
IMPORTANT GOALS OUR NATIONS SHARE. SINCERELY, GERALD R.
FORD. UNQUOTE.

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3. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN TO RELEASE ABOVE TEXT BUT HAS NO OBJECTION IF GOI WISHES TO DO SO.

4. FYI: FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRIME MINISTER'S BICENTENNIAL MESSAGE:

QUOTE: I HAVE PLEASURE IN CONVEYING WARM GREETINGS AND FELICITATIONS ON MY OWN BEHALF AND ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF INDIA TO YOU AND TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. I ALSO SEND MY BEST WISHES FOR YOUR PERSONAL WELL BEING AND THE CONTINUED PROSPERITY OF YOUR GREAT COUNTRY.

THE HIGH IDEALS PROCLAIMED BY THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION HAVE BEEN AN INSPIRATION FOR MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING INDIA, IN THEIR OWN STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE. THE DYNAMISM AND INNOVATIVE SPIRIT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHICH BROUGHT PROSPERITY TO THEIR COUNTRY, WILL, I AM SURE, SERVE AMERICA EQUALLY WELL IN THE FUTURE.

I HOPE THAT THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES WILL BE STRENGTHENED TO OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT AND FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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